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NEWS RELEASE

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Old Bay Bridge Demolition Implosions Continue

Bridge Demolition One Year Ahead of Schedule, Saving Millions

OAKLAND —Tomorrow, September 30, will be the third of this fall's six scheduled implosions for the demolition of the remaining 10 marine foundations of the original East Span of the San Francisco-Oakland Bay Bridge. Caltrans will be imploding two piers, E9 and E10. This implosion schedule allows Caltrans to have the foundations removed by the end of 2017.

"The contractor and Caltrans team are keeping safety and environmental protections as first priorities during the removal of these marine foundations at slack tide times," emphasized Caltrans Chief Deputy District Director Dan McElhinney. "We appreciate the patience of motorists during this implosion event and the California Highway Patrol who continues to assist us by pausing traffic to minimize distraction to drivers."

Caltrans will be combining the implosions of multiple piers on certain demolition dates, expediting work by a year and, saving taxpayers nearly \$10 million. The next multiple pier implosion weekend is scheduled for October 14.

Significant environmental monitoring will take place before, during and after each blast to evaluate any impacts to water quality, marine mammals, fish and birds. The time period from September through November provides the window when the least number of fish and marine mammals are present in the area. There will be brief impacts to water quality, as turbidity is expected to dissipate in just over an hour.

A Blast Attenuation System, better known as the "bubble curtain," will be in place around the piers to minimize impacts to biological resources by reducing blast area forces in the Bay during an implosion. The implosion time will again take place near "slack tide" when tidal fluctuation is at a balance point between ebb and flow to further help minimize potential impacts to the environment. These innovative controlled charges have been shown to be more efficient and the environmentally preferable alternative to traditional marine foundation removal.







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Caltrans continues to work with the California Highway Patrol (CHP), the U.S. Coast Guard and local law enforcement agencies to ensure the public safety of motorists, boaters, bicyclists and pedestrians. CHP will be initiating traffic rolling closures lasting up to 30 minutes on Interstate 80 eastbound and westbound approaching the Bay Bridge during each announced demolition activity.

During planned contractor site preparation, the Bay Bridge Bike Pedestrian Path will be closed for security and safety one week before each scheduled Saturday implosion, then reopen within hours that day for a week until the next closure date.

The calendar for the Bike Pedestrian Path may be found at www.baybridgeinfo.org.

The best place to watch the upcoming implosions will be on www.dot.ca.gov/oldbaybridgedemolition or by following #BayBridgeDemo on Twitter, Instagram, and Facebook.

<u>Tentative Schedule for the Implosions of the Original Bay Bridge Marine</u> <u>Foundations - Piers E9 through E18 – September through November 2017</u>

Potential Weekend Dates	Marine Piers	Implosion Window
Dates and times may change during the planned weekend due to weather, presence of marine animals, and other conditions		
September 30, October 1, 2	E9 & E10	9AM-11AM
October 14 , 15, 16	E11, E12 & E13	8:30AM-10:30AM
October 28 , 29, 30	E14, E15 & E16	7:30AM-9:30AM
November 11 , 12, 13	E17 & E18	6:30AM-8:30AM

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